



Bureau of State Laboratory Services
Office of Laboratory Licensure, Certification & Training

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DATE: October 12, 2001
TO: Laboratory Director and QA Manager
FROM: Wesley B. Press, Bureau Chief
SUBJECT: Information Update #68
NOTE: If any problems occur with this web site, please call (602) 364-0720. Thank you.

1. Our web site has gone through some major changes. The Environmental Laboratory Licensure home page can be accessed at:

<http://www.azdhs.gov/lab/license/env.htm>

The Technical Resources and Training home page can be accessed at:

<http://www.azdhs.gov/lab/license/tech/index.htm>

The Information Update page can be accessed at:

<http://www.azdhs.gov/lab/license/tech/infoup.htm>

We have added links to the licensure rules and some EPA sites. This page can be accessed at:

<http://www.azdhs.gov/lab/license/tech/contact.htm>

2. All environmental laboratories conducting compliance testing for Arizona are required to follow the procedure and all the quality control criteria specified in the method. In the past we have allowed the licensed laboratories to make simple method modifications such as the use of a capillary column vs packed column. On August 29, 2001, the Arizona Department of Health Services' Director approved a list of the permissible method modifications. This list can be found on the web site <http://www.azdhs.gov/lab/license/tech/infoup.htm> titled "Method Modification-8/29/2001". The laboratories must assure that all the quality control requirements of the method are met and the results reported are scientifically valid and defensible. An Initial Demonstration of Performance should be performed when

applicable. In addition, where the compliance methods are not precise and are unclear, clarifications and additional quality control criteria have been added to improve the data quality

3. The Proficiency Evaluation (PE) sample protocol for Arizona:

- At the time of initial application, proof of successfully completed PE samples for all requested methods is required. An exception is if a PE sample is unavailable.
- On a routine basis the following is required:
 - For laboratories licensed for drinking water: The Water Supply study must be completed for each licensed parameter that is included in the study within a 12 month period. A separate lot is required for different methods used to analyze the same parameter (e.g., arsenic by 200.7 and 200.9 would need to be done on two separate lots). Radiochemistry PE studies are required semiannually. There is no clear requirement yet to participate in the Microbiology Study on a routine basis, but is highly recommended.
 - For laboratories licensed for wastewater: The Water Pollution study must be completed for each licensed parameter that is included in the study within a 12 month period. The same lot can be used for multiple methods analyzed for the same analyte (e.g. arsenic by 200.7 and 200.9 can be done on the same lot vial). Radiochemistry and Microbiology PE studies are not required on a routine basis.
 - For solid, liquid, and hazardous waste sample methods: Only the 8015AZ PE study is required annually. The WP study can be substituted for the equivalent solid waste methods (e.g., completion of a wastewater PE for 1657 would be acceptable for meeting both the 1657 and 8141A requirements). Radiochemistry and Microbiology PE studies are not required on a routine basis.
 - Our program can require a laboratory to participate in additional PE studies if found necessary.

4. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) ruling eliminates the use of CFC-113 (Freon™) for the oil and grease testing in water beginning January 1, 2002. The EPA has published a final rule in the Federal Register dated March 13, 2001 Volume 66 Number 49. Pursuant to this rule, the use of CFC-113 will no longer be permitted in testing of Oil and Grease and Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon in Water beginning on January 1, 2002. All laboratories should use method 1664A in place of 413.1, 413.2 and 418.1, for the oil and grease testing by January 1, 2002 deadline.
5. Attached please find the letter our office received from the Inspector General of EPA concerning issues of misconduct or unethical practices in analytical laboratories. The open letter dated September 5, 2001 may be accessed at the [EPA website](#). ([Acrobat Reader™](#) is required to view this file)
6. If you have any questions regarding the Information Updates, or if you have any technical questions that need clarification, please call or send e-mail to Prabha Acharya, Program Manager, Technical Resources and Training, at the Laboratory Licensure numbers/address. Copies of the Information

Updates can now be found at our internet address: <http://www.azdhs.gov/lab/license/tech/infoup.htm>

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This message is available in alternative format by contacting Wesley Press at (602) 542-1198

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